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ABSTRACT

The narrative records events leading to, during, and following an English language literacy event for older First Nations, Metis, and other Canadian older women, which took place in Saskatchewan in January 1996 under the supervision of Intergenerational Grandmothers Uniting, formally known as the Cross Cultural Intergenerational Pilot Project, an extension program of the University of Regina (Saskatchewan). The project emerged from a learning circle. The report describes the learning circles, the planning process (search for funding for a literacy education project, objectives, finding resource persons, inviting participants), the two gatherings, and lessons learned. The workshops held in the first gathering included one designed to help learners identify their needs, a tutor training workshop, a popular theater group, and a writer's workshop. The first gathering led to another focusing on storytelling and reading. Participants' stories are included in the report. The project is viewed as a powerful series of events bringing together older women to tell their stories, meeting English literacy needs in an appropriate and culturally sensitive way. Appended materials include a 14-item bibliography and materials related to both participant and tutor activities. (MSE) (Adjunct ERIC Clearinghouse on Literacy Education)

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